

Message Text

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INFO OAU COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 179057

FOLLOWING REPEAT KHARTOUM 3141 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO
ABU DHABI, BELGRADE, BONN, BRUSSELS, CARACAS, DAMASCUS, JAKARTA,
GENEVA, JIDDA, LUALA LUMPUR, KUWAIT, LONDON, MADRID, PARIS,
PRETORIA, QUITO, ROME, TEHRAN, BAGHDAD, USUN NEW YORK, USNATO,
USICA WASHDC 13 JUL 78

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 3141

DEPT BASS OAU COLLECTIVE
BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEC

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG ETRD PORG OAU XA

SUBJECT: OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, DAY VI: STRENGTHENED EFFORTS TO
IMPOSE OIL EMBARGO ON SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA

SUMMARY: OAU COMMITTEE OF SEVEN ON OIL SANCTIONS PRESENTED
ITS REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
(COM) JULY 12. COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO
MAKE ISSUE OF OIL EMBARGO OF SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA
PERMANENT ITEM AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES, TO SEEK UN
SECURITY COUNCIL (UNSC) RESOLUTION ENDORSING EMBARGO
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AND TO EMPLOY CONSULTATIVE GROUP TO MONITOR OIL EMBARGO,
PROBABLY WILL BE ADOPTED BY COM. CREDIBILITY OF U.S. ATTITUDE
TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA AMONG AFRICAN STATES COULD BE ERODED
IN UNSC IF U.S. CONTINUES TO POOSE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS.
END SUMMARY.

1. OAU COMMITTEE OF SEVEN ON OIL SANCTIONS, ESTABLISHED

AT LIBREVILLE OAU SUMMIT IN 1977 AND COMPOSED OF ALGERIA, GABON, GHANA, LIBYA, NIGERIA, SIERRA LEONE AND ZAMBIA (CHAIRMAN), PRESENTED ITS LENGTHY REPORT TO COM. REPORT, INTRODUCED BY ZAMBIAN FONMIN SITEKE, MWALE, DETAILED COMMITTEE OF SEVEN VISITS TO ABU DHABI, EQUADOR, INDONESIA, IRAQ, KUWAIT, MALAYSIA, QATAR, SUADI ARABIA AND VENEZUELA MADE ON BEHALF OF OAU FROM OCT TO DEC 1977. REPORT ALSO DESCRIBED COMMITTEE'S INABILITY TO VISIT IRAN AND CONCLUDED WITH SIX RECOMMENDATIONS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) TO ESTABLISH A STANDING COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF THE PRESENT SEVEN MEMBER STATES TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHECKING THE APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS AND TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH SIMILAR COMMITTEES ALREADY EXISTING IN THE U.N. AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARITS.

(B) TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING CONSULTATIVE CONTACTS BETWEEN THE OAU AND THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH-EAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN). (IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT THIS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN DUE TIME BUT BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN MEMBER STATES OF OAU AND ASEAN SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED. IT WAS LEFT TO THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE TO LOOK INTO THIS MATTER.)

(C) TO MAKE THE ISSUE OF OIL EMBARGO A PERMANENT ITEM AT ALL REGIONAL, INTER-REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES. (THIS ISSUE WILL LIKEWISE BE TABLED BEFORE THE NON-ALIGNMENT CONFERENCE OF BELGRADE WITH THE SPONSORSHIPS NDLJB MVAMBKTNPUKES.)
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(D) TO REQUEST THE AFRICAN GROUP IN THE U.N., IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES, TO BRING UP THE ISSUE OF OIL EMBARGO AND TO TRY TO GET THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO PASS A RESOLUTION ON THIS MATTER.

(E) TO EMPLOY THE SERVICES OF THE HASLEMERE GROUP OF CONSULTANTS OR ANY OAU-APPROVED GROUP WHICH SPECIALIZES IN THE STUDY OF HOW THE OIL COMPANIES BREAK THE OIL EMBARGO.

(F) TO EXPRESS ITS DISPLEASURE AT THE MANNER IN WHICH IT WAS SNUBBED BY IRAN, BUT AT THE SAME TIME TO CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO PERSUADE IRAN TO PREVENT THE FLOW OF ITS OIL TO SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA. (IT WAS DECIDED THAT MESSAGES OF THANKS BE SENT TO THE OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES VISITED BY THE COMMITTEE OF TEN.)

2. ELSEWHERE IN REPORT IT WAS STATED THAT "WITH EXCEPTION OF IRAN, ALL OTHER COUNTRIES VISITED INFORMED THE COMMITTEE THAT NOT A DROP OF THEIR OIL WAS EXPORTED TO SOUTH AFRICA OR SOUTHERN RHODESIA. ALL INDICATED THEY WOULD CONSIDER TAKING LEGISLATIVE MEASURES TO END RELATIONS WITH THE TWO REGIMES." ACCORDING TO AUSTRALIAN DIPLMAT ATTENDING COM AS JOURNALIST WHO HAS BEEN

FOLLOWING OIL EMBARGO ISSUE, OAU RESOLUTIONS ARE SIMILAR TO ONES ALREADY ADOPTED BY COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT IN LONDON. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT 4 OF 7 COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE COMMONWEALTH MEMBERS ALSO, AND THAT ZAMBIA, WHICH HAS BEEN MOST ACTIVE IN OPPOSING INTERNATIONAL OIL FIRMS' BREAKING OF SANCTIONS, IS CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE.

3. COMMENT: COMMITTEE OS SEVEN RECOMMENDATIONS REFLECT OAU PERCEPTION THAT OCT-DEC 9-COUNTRY MISSION MET WITH ENCOURAGING RESULTS. RECOMMENDATIONS AVOID RHETORICAL ATTACKS AND ARE SERIOUS OAU EFFORT TO EXERT ECONOMIC PESSURE ON SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA. WARM RECEPTION ACCORDED TO MISSION IN ASAI APPARENT IN SUGGESTION FOR CONSULTATIVE CONTACTS BETWEEN ASEAN AND OAU. MILD
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LANGUAGE USED TO REBUKE IRAN IS VIVID CONTRAST TO JANUARY 1978 OAU PRESS RELEASE STRONGLY CONDEMNING IRAN'S INTERFERENCE IN AFRICA AND FURTHER RESPRESENTS OAU DESIRE FOR CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO ACHIEVE ITS GOALS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. HOWEVER, CALL FOR OIL EMBARGO IN UNSC COULD POSE DIFFICULT PROBLEM FOR U.S., WHICH CURRENTLY OPPOSES ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. IT IS LIKELY THAT BELGRADE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM) WILL ENDORSE OAU PROPOSALS AND THAT ISSUE WILL ARISE AT UN IN FALL. IN LIGHT OF CONGRESSIONAL ACTIONS TO EMBARGO PURCHASE OF UGANDAN COFFEE EXPORTS, U.S. CREDIBILITY IN AFRICA MAY COME INTO QUESTION BY MANY OAU MEMBERS. EVEN BY "MODERATES" WHO ARE UNANIMOUS IN THEIR ATTITUDES TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA.
BERGUS

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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